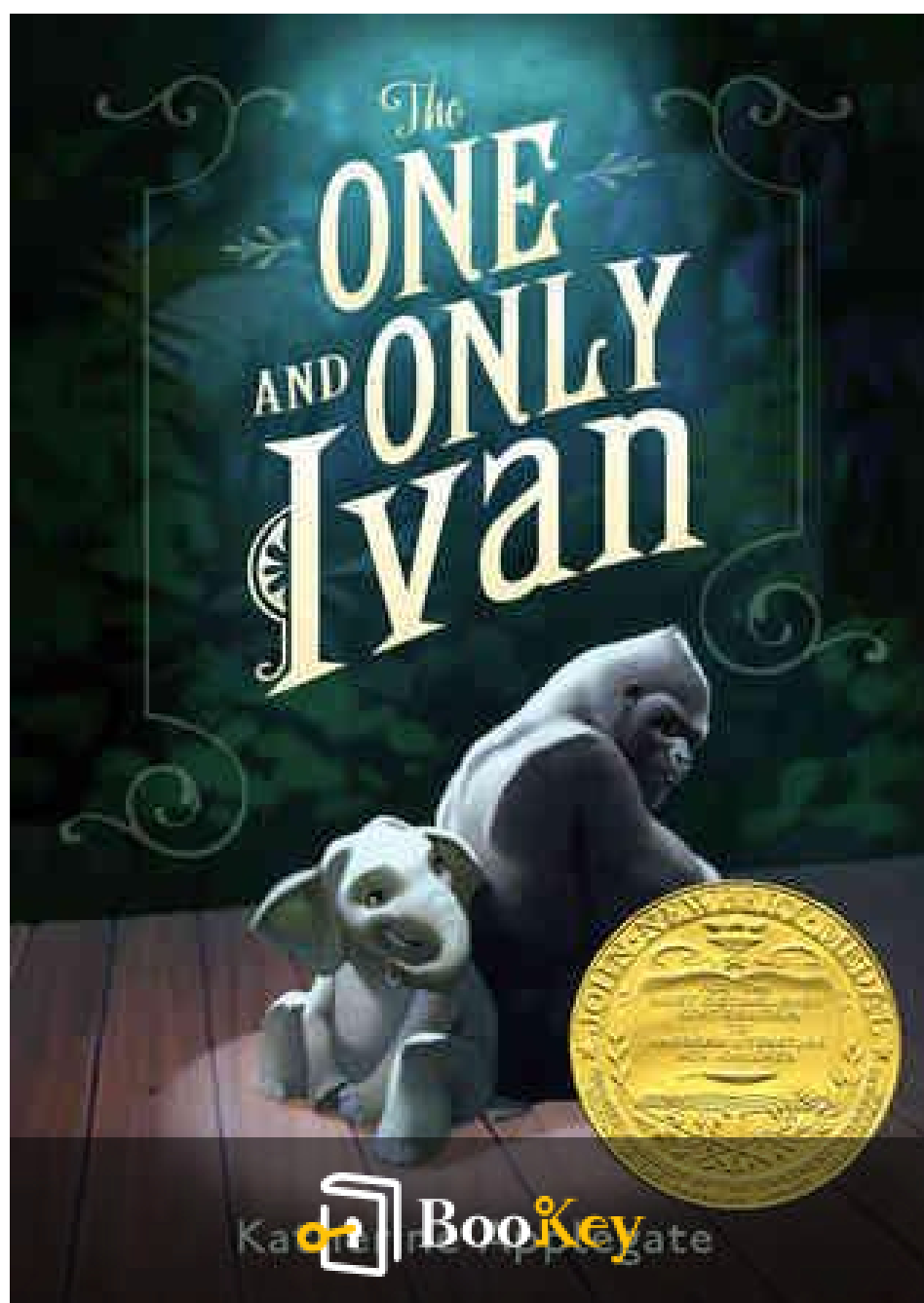


The One And Only Ivan PDF (Limited Copy)

Katherine Applegate



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The One And Only Ivan Summary

Friendship and freedom within a captive world.

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About the book

In "The One and Only Ivan," Katherine Applegate immerses readers in a poignant tale of friendship, hope, and the enduring spirit of a caged gorilla named Ivan, who has lived for years in a small enclosure at a mall. Through Ivan's soulful narrative, we witness his struggle with the constraints of captivity while he forms an unbreakable bond with a baby elephant named Ruby, who ignites a flicker of longing in him for freedom and a life beyond the bars. As Ivan grapples with his past and the meaning of home, Applegate weaves a captivating story that not only highlights the empathy inherent in all creatures but also challenges us to examine our relationships with animals and the world around us. Join Ivan on his journey of self-discovery and witness how one voice can inspire change and spark hope.

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About the author

Katherine Applegate is a renowned American author celebrated for her compelling storytelling and ability to connect with young readers through themes of friendship, resilience, and the natural world. Born on November 9, 1956, she has written numerous books across various genres, but she is perhaps best known for her award-winning novel "The One and Only Ivan," which tells the poignant story of a South American gorilla living in captivity and his journey towards freedom. Applegate's passion for animals and her dedication to advocacy for wildlife conservation is reflected in her narrative, making her work both touching and impactful. Her contributions to children's literature have earned her several prestigious awards, including the Newbery Medal, solidifying her place as a vital voice in contemporary literature.

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Chapter 1 Summary: the exit 8 big top mall and video arcade

In Chapter 1 of "The One and Only Ivan," we meet Ivan, a gorilla living at the Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade. His world is a peculiar blend of a shopping mall and a zoo. The mall features a carousel, various animals, and an audience of humans who come to watch the shows. Ivan lives in a glass-and-metal enclosure, and his closest friends are Stella, an elephant, and a dog named Bob. While Ivan spends his days in a fairly confined space, he can observe the bustling mall and the expansive parking lot outside, where cars continuously race along the freeway.

Mack, the boss of the mall, plays a significant role in Ivan's life. He takes care of the animals but also manages the entertainment side of the mall. Ivan has a unique perspective on his situation; he doesn't feel entirely human, despite living among them. He reminisces about a moment when he had a birthday gift—a baseball bat—which he used to create a small hole in his enclosure, but that gift was quickly taken away.

Ivan has a painted jungle scene in his domain that lacks authenticity—no water in the waterfall, no scent from the flowers. His longing for a real jungle and for reading showcases his desire for freedom and connection to his past as a gorilla. Although he wishes he could read, he recalls a time when he discovered the taste of a book left behind, highlighting his mix of



curiosity and frustration about his circumstances.

Despite the portrayal of Ivan as a fierce silverback, he states repeatedly that he isn't an angry creature. His understanding of anger as a means of protection ties into his identity. Ivan's reflections create a poignant image of his life, emphasizing themes of isolation, the longing for freedom, and the struggle for identity in captivity. The chapter sets the stage for his story, filled with a sense of quiet introspection amidst the noise of the mall around him.

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Chapter 2 Summary: the littlest big top on earth

In Chapter 2 of "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate, we dive deeper into Ivan's life at the Big Top Mall, which he refers to as "The Littlest Big Top on Earth." Ivan reflects on his neighbors, who boast an impressive array of talents, from a baseball-playing chicken to a fire truck-driving rabbit. There's also a seal who balances a ball on her nose, captivating the children who toss pennies into her pool, wishing on the coins. Unfortunately, when the seal eats a hundred pennies, Mack, the caretaker, naively assures everyone she'll be fine, but tragically, he is wrong.

Mack runs the circus, and each day, humans gather to watch performances, including Mack, who dresses as a clown, and Snickers the dog, who rides on Stella the elephant's back. Unlike his neighbors, Ivan doesn't perform any tricks; Mack believes it's enough for him just to be himself. Stella reminisces about more traditional circuses that travel from place to place, filled with daring acts and wild animals, whereas their circus remains in one spot, like a weary old creature.

After the shows, Ivan observes the humans bustling through stores, exchanging money for various goods, from balloons to T-shirts. He notes how humans are always on the hunt, buying more and more, even when their bags are already full. Ivan admires their cleverness in creating delightful treats and intricate structures, yet he remains bemused by their insistence on



constantly seeking more, seeing them as poor hunters when it comes to true contentment. This chapter richly portrays the unique world Ivan inhabits, mixing a sense of wonder about human behavior with the bittersweet reality of his own captivity.

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Chapter 3: artists

In this chapter of "The One and Only Ivan," we dive into the daily life of Ivan, a gorilla living in a mall, which he refers to as his "domain." The chapter opens with Ivan sharing his somewhat dull routine, describing the few items in his enclosure—a tire swing, a baseball, a tiny plastic pool with dirty water, and an old TV. One cherished possession is a stuffed toy gorilla named Not-Tag, gifted to him by Julia, the ten-year-old daughter of the janitor who cleans the mall at night. This soft toy holds sentimental value, as it reminds him of his twin sister, Tag.

Ivan reflects on his bond with Julia, highlighting their shared identity as great apes and artists. Julia introduced Ivan to drawing by giving him a broken crayon and a piece of paper, which opened up a new world for him. Although he feels his art is simple compared to Julia's vibrant and imaginative creations, he finds solace and escape in the act of drawing. He often draws mundane objects in his cage—like an apple core or a candy wrapper—and although he knows that humans often misinterpret his work, he continues to create for his own enjoyment rather than for their approval.

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Chapter 4 Summary: stella

In Chapter 4 of "The One and Only Ivan," the bond between Ivan, the gorilla, and Stella, the elephant, deepens through their nightly conversations. Stella, who is wise and experienced, reassures Ivan that he will one day meet another gorilla, reinforcing the idea of hope and connection amidst their solitary lives in captivity. Their exchanges are simple yet profound, revealing their shared loneliness and the small joys they find together—like their mutual love for yogurt raisins.

Stella recounts vivid memories of her past, including her life in the wild where she thrived among lush canopies and the sounds of nature. In contrast to her, Ivan struggles to remember much of his early life, highlighting the theme of memory and the heavy weight of their confinement. The two share a comforting camaraderie, acknowledging each other's presence without feeling the need to fill every moment with words, as both animals appreciate the moments of silence.

Stella's background in the circus comes to light, showcasing her strength and talent as she performs tricks—like standing on her hind legs while a small dog jumps on her head. This performance reveals the harsh realities of their lives; encouragement comes with the threat of punishment through a painful tool known as the claw-stick. The memories of violence and fear haunt Stella, particularly when she shares a traumatic story of witnessing a trainer



abused by an elephant. This instance shines a light on the cruelty of their captivity and the emotional scars it leaves, deepening the reader's understanding of their plight.

Overall, this chapter encapsulates themes of companionship, the weight of memories, the scars of past traumas, and the longing for freedom, all conveyed through the gentle yet poignant dialogues between Ivan and Stella.

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Critical Thinking

Key Point: The power of companionship and hope in overcoming adversity

Critical Interpretation: Imagine finding solace and strength in shared moments of vulnerability and understanding, just as Ivan and Stella do. Life may often feel isolating and burdensome, but this chapter teaches you that fostering deep connections with others can help you carry the weight of your struggles. By embracing companionship, you cultivate a space for hope and resilience, where silence speaks volumes and the bonds formed can inspire you to envision a brighter future together, no matter the challenges you face.



Chapter 5 Summary: bob

In Chapter 5 of "The One and Only Ivan," we delve into the bond between Ivan, a gorilla, and Bob, a clever and scrappy stray dog. Their friendship is evident as they discuss their daily lives and survival strategies. Bob, quick and resourceful, has learned to scrape by on discarded food from the mall, emphasizing his independence and selective tastes. He teases Ivan about his appetite, showing that their dynamic is filled with playful banter.

Bob's backstory is heart-wrenching. He reveals that he used to have siblings but was abandoned as a puppy, which shaped his tough exterior and ability to survive on the streets. His tales of cold nights and lonely struggles add depth to his character and highlight themes of resilience and the search for warmth and comfort.

Ivan, on the other hand, reflects on his life in captivity. He's aware of his surroundings but lives a more isolated existence compared to Bob. The deep companionship is palpable when Bob unexpectedly curls up on Ivan's belly for warmth, reminding Ivan of the fleeting comfort of companionship. In that moment, Ivan feels a profound sense of connection, which he hasn't experienced in a long time.

The chapter beautifully blends themes of friendship, survival, and the quest for connection. Ivan's straightforward emotions contrast with Bob's



expressive nature, yet both characters express vulnerability and a longing for comfort. Their interactions create an engaging narrative that resonates with readers, showcasing the importance of having someone to share life's burdens and joys, even in the most unconventional circumstances.

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Chapter 6: julia

In Chapter 6 of "The One and Only Ivan," we meet Julia, a child who spends her evenings by Ivan's enclosure while her father, George, cleans the mall. Julia prefers to sit with Ivan instead of other places like the carousel or food court, and the bond between them strengthens because they share a love for drawing. Julia, who finds comfort in art, expresses her creativity through sketches of Ivan that portray him in a more elegant light than he sees himself reflected in the billboard by the highway.

The chapter paints a vivid picture of Julia's life and challenges. Her mother, Sara, used to help clean the mall but stopped due to illness, leaving Julia to support her father. Despite his insistence that Julia focus on homework—which involves tedious tasks with pencils and books—she still finds time to draw and express herself. Her interactions show her warmth and sensitivity, especially towards the friendships she forms and the teasing she experiences at school. Julia finds solace in her art and her connection with Ivan, signifying a mutual understanding and companionship that transcends words.

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Chapter 7 Summary: drawing bob

In Chapter 7 of "The One and Only Ivan," we see a beautiful moment of creativity and connection between Julia and Bob, the small dog who lives in the mall with Ivan, the gorilla. Julia, an artistic girl, finds inspiration in Bob and sketches him, capturing his essence as a clever but lonely little creature. Her drawings bring Bob to life in whimsical ways—giving him wings or a lion's mane—yet the most significant gift is when she names him Bob. Before Julia, no one knew what to call this elusive dog, as he would shy away from humans, sneaking into the shadows whenever someone approached with food.

As Julia observes Bob, she contemplates him like an artist trying to understand her subject. This deep gaze allows her to really see him, and when she finally draws him, she conveys his sweet and wistful nature. The moment becomes even more special when her father recognizes the name she wrote beneath the drawing, confirming Bob's identity. Julia expresses joy in discovering Bob's name, highlighting her intuitive understanding of him and her ability to bring out his character through art. This chapter beautifully illustrates themes of friendship, the power of creativity, and the significance of names and identity, showcasing how a simple act of drawing can forge deeper connections and help individuals feel seen and valued.



Chapter 8 Summary: not sleepy

In Chapter 8 of "The One and Only Ivan," we find Ivan the gorilla unable to sleep, feeling a mix of weariness that he can't fully articulate. His companions are Stella, the older elephant, who is dealing with her own pains, and Bob, a scrappy dog who dreams of chili fries while curled up on Ivan's belly. As they converse, the theme of confinement emerges; Bob bluntly points out that Ivan's "very small domain" is a cage, emphasizing Ivan's growing unrest with his surroundings.

Stella, wise and nurturing, suggests remembering happier times to stave off sleeplessness. This sparks a reflection in Ivan about the humans who have cared for him over the years. Though his memories are hazy, he conjures up snapshots of his past keepers—their kindnesses, like Karl's harmonica serenades and Gerald's sweet strawberries. This reminiscing stirs a bittersweet sense of loss in Ivan, as he realizes how long it has been since he felt the genuine care of a keeper; now, he is mostly attended to by Mack, a man who appears more disinterested with each passing day.

The conversation reveals important character dynamics—Stella's nurturing spirit contrasts with Bob's blunt honesty, and Ivan's introspection highlights his deeper longing for connection and purpose. As the chapter closes, the imagery of the moonlit, silent playground around them emphasizes his isolation, making Ivan's thoughts linger in the quiet night. The theme of



memory and its significance is central here, reminding readers that while Ivan's present circumstances feel oppressive, the memories of love and care provide a flicker of hope and identity in his mind.

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Chapter 9: the beetle

In Chapter 9 of "The One and Only Ivan," we dive into Ivan's imaginative world as he receives a new black crayon and fresh paper from Mack, signaling that it's time for him to create again. Excitedly, he searches for inspiration in his environment, contemplating different colors and objects around him. Just when he's about to give up, a shiny black beetle wanders into his space, capturing his attention.

Ivan greets the beetle, who surprisingly stays put, allowing him to sketch it. Drawing something new is a rare opportunity for Ivan, and he carefully observes the beetle's form and features. His creative flow is interrupted by Bob, a friend who jokingly suggests eating the beetle, but Ivan defends his new companion.

Mack soon returns with George and Julia, and he picks up Ivan's drawing, initially dismissing it as "a picture of nothing." However, Julia, who has been observing everything closely, recognizes the drawing as a beetle. She eagerly points out the real beetle in the enclosure, proving her insight and

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Chapter 10 Summary: jambo

In Chapter 10 of "The One and Only Ivan," we find Ivan and Bob gathered with Stella, who is feeling unwell but is still keen to share a story to entertain them as they wait for a new neighbor. Ivan notices Stella's swollen foot but she insists she's fine and begins her tale about a boy who falls into the enclosure of a gorilla family at a zoo. Through Stella's storytelling, we learn what a good zoo represents – a safe haven for animals and a place where humans make amends for their past mistakes.

As she recounts the incident, the gorilla named Jambo gently examines the fallen boy as the crowd watches, filled with anxiety. Stella emphasizes the unexpected tenderness of Jambo, who, against the expectations of the humans around him, decides to lead his troop away rather than retaliate. When the boy regains consciousness, the humans fear for his safety, but Jambo shows compassion rather than aggression, ultimately allowing the boy to be rescued unharmed.

Bob, curious about the story's authenticity, asks if it's true, to which Stella confidently replies that she tells the truth, albeit with a hint that she might mix up some details. This chapter beautifully highlights themes of empathy and the complex nature of human-animal relationships while showcasing the bond between the characters. Through the simplicity of a heartfelt tale, Stella imparts lessons about kindness and understanding, leaving listeners



pondering the nature of both animals and humans.

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Chapter 11 Summary: arrival

In Chapter 11 of "The One and Only Ivan," the arrival of a new resident, a baby elephant named Ruby, creates a buzz in the animal enclosure. Bob, Ivan's loyal friend, alerts the group when a large white truck pulls into the parking lot. The scene unfolds as Mack, the owner, opens the metal door to reveal Ruby, whose tiny trunk peeks out from the mysterious depths of the truck. Although the others in the zoo are excited about the new addition, Stella, the elderly elephant, feels a heavy weight of concern rather than joy.

Mack eagerly announces Ruby's arrival, viewing her as a ticket-selling asset, indicating his focus on profit over the welfare of the animals. While Mack and the men struggle to coax Ruby out of the truck, Stella becomes restless and visibly agitated, pacing her small area. When Ivan tries to comfort her, she responds pragmatically, reminding him that their situations are dire and will never truly be okay. This exchange highlights a deepening bond between Ivan and Stella, as they both grapple with their harsh realities.

The chapter encapsulates themes of hope and despair, showing Ivan's protective instincts for Ruby, even as Stella's experience keeps her grounded in the harsh truths of their lives. The tension between Mack's capitalist motives and the emotional needs of the animals creates a poignant backdrop as Ruby's arrival symbolizes both a potential opportunity for Ivan and a source of anxiety for Stella. Through vivid descriptions and emotional



exchanges, Applegate captures the challenges in the lives of these zoo animals, setting the stage for the unfolding story of empathy and survival.

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Chapter 12: stella helps

In Chapter 12 of "The One and Only Ivan," tension escalates as Mack and his crew struggle to get a young elephant named Ruby out of a truck. As they yell back and forth, it's clear they are frustrated and anxious. The older elephant, Stella, despite her injuries, bravely pushes past Mack to reach Ruby. Her determination is evident as she limps up the ramp, showcasing her strength and maternal instincts. When Stella finally sees Ruby, she tenderly touches her trunk to the baby elephant's, creating a moment of connection between the two.

Mack, who had acquired Ruby as a cheap spectacle from a failed circus, is less concerned about the elephants' well-being and more focused on the monetary potential of Ruby's cuteness. His dismissive attitude contrasts sharply with Stella's nurturing nature. When Ruby hesitates to enter Stella's enclosure, Mack becomes frustrated and even threatens to use a broom to force Ruby inside. However, Stella stands protectively in front of Ruby, displaying her fierce love and loyalty.

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Chapter 13 Summary: introductions

The morning after Ruby's arrival, Ivan wakes up to a small trunk poking through the bars of Stella's enclosure. Ruby introduces herself with a cheerful voice, and their conversation quickly reveals the innocence and naivety of this young elephant. She and Ivan, a gorilla, engage in a light exchange about their identities and lives, with Ruby initially mistaking Ivan for a monkey. Bob, the wise-cracking dog, clarifies that Ivan is indeed a gorilla and slips in his own comedic thoughts, giving a glimpse into his personality.

When Ruby asks about breakfast, Ivan explains that they have to wait for the mall to open, highlighting their limited daily routine. Curious and a bit sad, Ruby inquires about other elephants, discovering that it's just her and Stella. Ivan feels a pang of responsibility, wishing he could provide her with what she seems to miss—a broader family and connection.

As their conversation deepens, Ruby shares that she used to live with her parents and other elephants, now all gone. This revelation darkens the mood; she nonchalantly states that humans killed her family. Bob's sarcastic remark underscores the grim reality of their lives, as a heavy silence descends upon them. The chapter captures the innocence of Ruby, the burden Ivan carries as a protector, and a stark reminder of the cruel world they inhabit, promoting themes of loss, resilience, and the harsh truths of captivity.



Chapter 14 Summary: elephant jokes

In Chapter 14 of "The One and Only Ivan," the day begins with Ivan, Bob, and Ruby waking up to the dawn. Ruby is feeling bored and eagerly engages with Ivan and Bob, seeking entertainment. Aware that Aunt Stella is still asleep due to her painful foot, Ruby shares a bit about her past life in the circus, highlighting the challenges she faced, like being chained.

To lift her spirits, Ivan tries to tell a joke he remembers: "How can you tell that an elephant has been in the refrigerator?" When Ruby isn't quite familiar with the concept of a refrigerator, Ivan explains it and even decides to draw one to help her understand. This moment showcases Ivan's nurturing side as he engages Ruby with his art, despite his broken pencil.

As he draws, the sun begins to rise, creating a vibrant atmosphere. Ruby is thrilled with Ivan's drawings, and her happiness inspires him. The bond between them grows deeper as Ruby expresses her joy, reminiscent of happier memories from Ivan's past.

Aunt Stella eventually wakes up and, despite feeling her age, is supportive and affectionate toward both Ivan and Ruby. When Ruby shares her favorite joke, which ends with the punchline about baby elephants, it reinforces the themes of friendship and the importance of joy amidst their circumstances. This chapter beautifully illustrates the warmth of their connections and the



shared moments of laughter that brighten their lives in captivity.

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Chapter 15: ruby's story

In Chapter 15 of "The One and Only Ivan," Ruby, a young elephant, eagerly requests Ivan to entertain her with jokes. When he admits he's run out of them, Ruby takes the initiative to share her own story about a frightening experience she had. She recounts a time when she and her family were searching for food and she accidentally fell into a deep, water-filled hole that humans had dug. Ruby vividly describes the terror of nearly drowning, her voice filled with emotion as she recalls thinking she might die.

Bob, the wisecracking dog, joins in, humorously reflecting on his fondness for digging stories but darkly suggesting that humans often do harm to animals. However, Ruby's story takes a positive turn as she reveals that villagers came together to rescue her, using ropes to pull her out from the water. She shares how the entire community, including children and elders, celebrated her rescue, feeding her fruit and eventually helping her find her way back to her family.

Despite the joy of her rescue, the characters grapple with the dual nature of

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Chapter 16 Summary: worry

In Chapter 16 of "The One and Only Ivan," a sense of worry hangs over the characters as Julia arrives after a show, bringing supplies for drawing: thick books, a pencil, and colorful Magic Markers. However, Ivan, the gorilla and narrator, is not in the mood to create because he is deeply concerned about his friend Stella, the elephant. Stella has been unusually quiet and has refused to eat, which raises alarm.

Julia notices Stella's distress and approaches her gate, checking on her with empathy. When she sees Stella lying in a pile of hay, struggling to breathe, she calls for her father, George, expressing her fears. George, concerned but hesitant about the costs involved, understands the gravity of the situation and reluctantly contacts Mack, the owner of the circus. He learns that a vet will only come the next day if things don't improve, revealing Mack's prioritization of financial investment over Stella's health despite his insistence that he doesn't want her to die.

As the tension builds, Julia stays by Stella's side instead of focusing on her homework or art, showing her devotion and concern for Stella's well-being. This chapter highlights themes of friendship, love, and the emotional burdens carried by both humans and animals. It underscores the bond between them, reflecting the promise of support and care in the face of uncertainty and fear. Through Ivan's eyes, we see a mixture of hope and



apprehension, reminding us of the fragility of life and the strength of companionship.

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Chapter 17 Summary: still life

In Chapter 17 of "The One and Only Ivan," we see a glimpse into the domestic life of Ivan and his human caretakers, Helen and Mack. Helen excitedly brings home a new painting, a still life depicting vibrant fruit, which she hopes to display in their living room. Mack, however, dismissively comments on it, focusing on his own less artistic views. Ivan, the gorilla and narrator of the story, is captivated by the colors and shapes in the painting, particularly the fruit, which he finds beautiful and almost tempting.

As the couple sets the painting up, Ivan becomes distracted and wanders into the kitchen, where he encounters a chocolate frosted cake. Rather than thinking of it as dessert, Ivan's artistic instincts kick in. He sees the cake as a canvas and the frosting like mud from his past jungle home. With a playful determination, he begins to scoop up the frosting, drawn to the sensory experience of creating art once again.

Ivan's actions are playful yet evoke a deeper longing; they reveal his desire to express himself creatively, just as he did in his earlier days. The chapter captures this mix of innocence and mischief as Ivan recalls the joy of being an artist, underscoring a theme of self-expression and the innate desire to create. Despite the inevitable trouble that will come from his cake painting, Ivan is consumed with passion for his art, showcasing the strength of his



character and the need to reconnect with his identity. This moment beautifully illustrates the contrasts in his life between freedom and captivity, and the little joys he finds amidst his circumstances.

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Chapter 18: a new beginning

In Chapter 18 of "The One and Only Ivan," the atmosphere shifts with Mack's return after two days of absence during which he seems to be avoiding the memory of Stella. He is eager to train Ruby, an elephant young and impressionable, and believes this is a chance for a "new beginning" for both of them. However, Mack's methods are harsh and distressing. He ties Ruby's feet and chains her neck, forcing her to perform tricks while yelling and kicking in frustration when she doesn't comply.

As the scene unfolds, we see the main characters' reactions: Julia, George, and Bob watch with concern, especially as Ruby struggles against her exhaustion. Julia empathizes with Ruby, suggesting she might need a break, while George tries to intervene by urging Mack to end the training session. Instead, Mack's frustration boils over when Ruby refuses to budge, leading him to retrieve a claw-stick, a tool meant to inflict pain and fear to gain obedience.

Just as Mack prepares to strike Ruby to make his point, she surprises

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Chapter 19 Summary: colors

In Chapter 19 of "The One and Only Ivan," we delve into a vibrant moment of creativity sparked by Julia, who introduces color and art into Ivan's world. Julia discovers a box filled with an array of bright paints, and her excitement is infectious. As she begins to paint, she brings the colors to life, creating an image of Ruby, the baby elephant, which captivates Ivan's attention and momentarily distracts him from his worries about Ruby, Mack, and the oppressive conditions they face.

As Julia struggles with her painting, expressing her dissatisfaction with her work, she ultimately chooses to give Ivan her creation, humorously dubbing it a "Julia original" with future value. This act of sharing highlights the bond between Julia and Ivan, underscoring themes of friendship and artistic expression. The scene takes an even more playful turn when Julia introduces finger paints, showcasing her playful spirit and willingness to engage with Ivan in a fun, interactive way.

Ivan's curiosity leads him to touch the paint, and he experiments with leaving his handprints on paper, a stark contrast to the ghostly marks left on his glass enclosure by visitors. This moment symbolizes Ivan's desire to leave a mark on the world and assert his presence, emphasizing the theme of self-expression amid captivity.



Overall, the chapter captures a delightful instance of creativity and connection, as Julia's art provides a glimpse of freedom and joy that transcends the bars of Ivan's cage, reminding readers of the beauty that can emerge even in challenging circumstances.

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Chapter 20 Summary: a bad dream

In Chapter 20 of "The One and Only Ivan," we find Ivan awake during the night, distractedly peeling paint from his fingers while Bob, who has inadvertently walked on one of Ivan's paintings, cleans his red paws. The mood quickly shifts when Ruby, the young elephant, wakes up from a nightmare, calling out frantically for Stella, who has passed away. Ivan comforts Ruby, assuring her that she is safe, but she is still haunted by her dream about a painful stick and worries about Mack's anger towards her.

As the chapter unfolds, the conversation flows between Ivan, Ruby, and Bob. Ruby expresses her fears and uncertainties about whether Mack is upset with her for an earlier incident. Bob, ever the cynical friend, makes light of the situation, leading to moments of both humor and somber reflection. The atmosphere is heavy, filled with the sounds of rain and rustling branches, creating a poignant backdrop to their nighttime dialogue. Ruby asks about finger paints and is curious to see a painting of herself, further emphasizing her innocence and desire for reassurance in a confusing world.

Ruby's request for a new story showcases her need for comfort and distraction from her fears, but Ivan struggles to think of something uplifting as his mind keeps drifting back to the unsettling realities of their captivity, signified by Mack and the ominous claw-stick. When Ruby asks if she might



meet the same fate as Aunt Stella, Ivan grapples with the harsh truth of their existence. He finds himself unable to lie to her; instead, he vows to do everything in his power to prevent Ruby from suffering the same fate, acknowledging the grimness of their reality by admitting that their home is a cage rather than a domain.

This chapter highlights themes of fear, the innocence of youth, and the deep bonds of friendship. The tension between hope and despair is palpable, as Ivan's protective instincts for Ruby clashing with the harsh truth of their captivity creates a compelling emotional landscape.

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Chapter 21: ad

In Chapter 21 of "The One and Only Ivan," Ivan finds a glimmer of hope when Bob shares that Mack might be getting more supplies, hinting at the possibility of better conditions for them. However, Ivan's thoughts drift beyond Mack's intentions; he is focused on creating art for Ruby, the young elephant he cares about. While watching a long Western movie, Ivan reflects on its storyline but finds himself distracted by his growing desire to paint a more meaningful picture for Ruby.

As the movie ends, he expresses his enjoyment, though Bob quips that there were too many horses and not enough dogs. Their discussion leads to Ivan's confusion over advertisements, which he finds perplexing since they lack the clear narratives that he enjoys in stories. In one ad, he sees happy families visiting a zoo and feels a longing as he contemplates the lives of elephants and other animals.

The images of the elephants resonate with him, sparking a need to capture that world on canvas. Ivan realizes that the elephants represent freedom,

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Chapter 22 Summary: twelve

In Chapter 22 of "The One and Only Ivan," we find Ivan the gorilla in his cage, with Bob the dog lounging on his stomach as they observe Julia, who is struggling with her homework. Julia's sighs suggest her disinterest and frustration, reminiscent of how Ivan feels when he ponders over his painting, searching for something that's just out of reach in his creative expression.

A conversation unfolds when Julia asks her father, George, about the spelling of two similar words—"principal" and "principle." George explains the meanings with a touch of humor while reinforcing the difference between the two, subtly imparting wisdom in a light-hearted manner. Julia's desire to be an artist raises her frustration about the necessity of spelling, reflecting the struggles many students face in connecting academic tasks to their passions.

Ivan observes her predicament and feels sympathy; he notes the complexity of human communication through words and is amused that gorillas like him don't need to navigate such puzzles. His experience leads to a moment of playful action when he jumps up, inadvertently sending Bob tumbling into the pool, prompting a humorous reaction from Bob about his dislike for wet feet.

As Ivan gazes out of his cage at the billboard proclaiming him as "the one



and only Ivan," he counts, a gesture that highlights his attempt to find comfort and clarity in the midst of his chaotic thoughts. The chapter beautifully captures the themes of creativity, the burdens of expectations, and the innocent yet complicated nature of human learning through the eyes of animals who observe and reflect on their surroundings.

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Chapter 23 Summary: more paintings

In Chapter 23 of "The One and Only Ivan," Ivan is frantically trying to gather his paintings, feeling an urgent need to find the right pieces to convey his feelings. Julia is about to leave with her dad, George, and although she tries to express her appreciation for Ivan's art, George dismisses it as mere "blobs." Despite this, Julia understands that Ivan's paintings hold deeper meaning, showing the emotions Ivan pours into them.

As George prepares to leave, he suggests leaving Ivan's artwork behind for Mack to potentially sell in the gift shop, not recognizing their true value. Julia defends Ivan, highlighting how his creations resonate with him personally. Throughout this exchange, Ivan feels a sense of despair as he realizes that all his efforts might be overlooked and that Ruby, the young elephant, is unlikely to escape the confines of the Big Top Mall, just as Stella could not.

Ivan's determination grows stronger as he contemplates Ruby's future, vowing not to let her become "another One and Only." This chapter emphasizes the themes of artistic expression, the struggle for freedom, and the protective bond between Ivan and Ruby. Ivan is deeply motivated by the desire to ensure that Ruby's life is not limited to the same fate he and Stella experienced.

| Key Points | Description |
|---------------------------|--|
| Ivan's Urgency | Ivan feels the need to select the right paintings to express his feelings as Julia is about to leave. |
| George's Dismissal | George downplays Ivan's art, referring to it as mere "blobs," failing to see their significance. |
| Julia's Defense | Julia appreciates Ivan's artwork, understanding the emotions behind them, and defends Ivan's talent. |
| Despair and Determination | Ivan feels despair for Ruby, fearing she will also be trapped like him and Stella but is determined to protect her future. |
| Themes | Artistic expression, struggle for freedom, and the protective bond between Ivan and Ruby are highlighted. |



Chapter 24: puzzle pieces

In Chapter 24 of "The One and Only Ivan," we see a tense moment as Ivan, the gorilla, exhibits a strong outburst, leaving Julia and George both surprised and concerned. Julia notices that Ivan is upset, and despite George's dismissive attitude, he acknowledges that Ivan has every reason to be angry, having spent years in confinement. As Ivan settles down, Julia's curiosity takes over; she begins to examine the scattered drawings Ivan has made, which are strewn across the floor like fallen leaves.

Julia's keen observation transforms the scene as she perceives shapes and letters within the chaos of Ivan's artwork. She excitedly starts piecing together what she believes are not just random blobs but the beginnings of words and images, urging her father to help her see the bigger picture. George remains skeptical but can't help but be drawn in by her enthusiasm. Together, they decipher letters that might spell "HEO," and Julia imagines there might be hidden meanings, like an eye or a trunk in Ivan's work.

This moment highlights Julia's determination and creativity, mirroring Ivan's

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Chapter 25 Summary: finally

In Chapter 25 of "The One and Only Ivan," the narrative unfolds as Julia and George work together to assemble Ivan's paintings, which hold a significant message about Ruby's future. As they piece together the artwork, Ruby wakes up and takes notice. She spots a picture of herself and learns it depicts a zoo, filled with other elephants. The excitement in the air is palpable, especially when Julia discovers that the letters they see form the word "HOME."

Julia's enthusiasm grows as she becomes convinced that these paintings are meant for a billboard, showcasing Ruby's need for a proper home. Despite George's skepticism and reluctance to take such a bold step without Mack's approval, Julia passionately argues for the idea. She envisions a way for the public to see Ruby's story and understand she doesn't belong in captivity.

Julia's determination shines through as she urges George to act, rekindling hope that maybe they can inspire change. There's a poignant moment when she reminds him of Stella, the elephant who passed away, highlighting the urgency and moral responsibility they have to help Ruby. In the end, George is moved by Julia's words and, against his better judgment, decides to help. He quietly agrees to her plan, demonstrating a shift in his character—he chooses to stand up for what is right, reflecting the book's themes of hope, friendship, and the fight against injustice. The chapter concludes with a



sense of anticipation, as they prepare to take their bold step toward promoting Ruby's freedom.

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Chapter 26 Summary: training

In Chapter 26 of "The One and Only Ivan," Ruby, the young elephant, is being introduced to clicker training by a woman who is kind and gentle with her. She encourages Ruby to interact with a box by rewarding her with treats like carrots and apples when she touches it. Ivan, the gorilla, observes this training process with a mix of curiosity and concern. He asks his friend Bob about the clicking noise the woman is making, and Bob explains that it's a method used to help animals learn by associating a sound with a reward.

As Ruby receives praise for her efforts, Ivan sees an opportunity for her. He tells Ruby that he believes the box could be her way out, hinting that it's connected to the zoo, where she might find a better life with other elephants. However, instead of expressing excitement, Ruby remains hesitant and confused, revealing her deep attachment to Ivan, Bob, and Julia, the young girl who visits them. She insists she doesn't want to leave her current home, showing a childlike desire for companionship and familiarity.

Ivan tries to reassure her that the zoo could offer a brighter future, filled with care and freedom, but Ruby is firmly planted in her feelings. She views her small cage as home, not as a prison, which highlights her innocence and loyalty. Ivan, however, feels the weight of his own experiences in captivity, and he gently tries to convey the harsh reality of their situation. This chapter emphasizes themes of freedom, belonging, and the desire to connect, as it



presents a poignant moment of conflict between Ruby's hopes and their grim reality in captivity.

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Chapter 27: good-bye

In Chapter 27 of "The One and Only Ivan" by Katherine Applegate, we witness a poignant farewell as Julia and her father, George, come to see Ivan one last time. George is packing up his tools, reflecting the unsettling changes at the mall where Ivan has lived. Julia reveals the heartbreaking news that her dad has been fired by Mack, but she holds onto hope that there might be future opportunities with the zoo. As she presses her palm against Ivan's glass, her tears highlight the deep bond they share. They connect through their hands, symbolizing their differences and similarities, and Julia expresses her love for Ivan, Ruby, and Bob, encouraging Ivan to embrace a brighter future.

Julia expresses concern about Bob, who is missing, and worries about what will happen to him if the mall closes down. She suggests that Bob could come live with them, showcasing her nurturing spirit. However, George's practicality casts doubt on that dream, revealing the family's struggle and uncertainty about the future. Despite the sadness of the moment, Julia tries to make it brighter by gifting Ivan a drawing. This drawing captures a joyful

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Chapter 28 Summary: silverback

On a chilly, drizzly evening, Ivan the gorilla is restless as dinner approaches, feeling the weight of solitude in his enclosure at the zoo. As he prepares for the quiet night in his den, the few remaining visitors watch him with curiosity. Just then, he notices a familiar sight: Julia, the little girl he cares for, running toward him with her backpack, followed closely by her father, George. Ivan can't contain his excitement, dancing around in joy, until he spots a familiar face peeking out of Julia's bag—it's Bob, the street-smart dog he thought he wouldn't see again.

Bob reveals his new life, finding a soft spot with Julia's family while helping her take care of three poodles to make ends meet until George starts his new job at the zoo. Their reunion is filled with warmth and affection, highlighting the bond they share, despite their different circumstances. Julia shows Ivan a photo of Ruby, the elephant he helped rescue, who is now thriving with a new family. Ivan feels a rush of pride knowing his actions made a difference in Ruby's life.

As their time together comes to an end, Julia expresses her gratitude to George for allowing them to visit Ivan, signifying the deep connection they all share. With the zoo illuminated in a cozy glow, Bob calls Ivan "the One and Only Ivan," and Ivan reflects on his identity, embracing his role as a protector and a part of his family. This chapter beautifully captures themes



of friendship, hope, and the importance of connections, as Ivan realizes he's not alone—he belongs to a loving community that continues to grow.

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Critical Thinking

Key Point: The power of connection and community

Critical Interpretation: Imagine feeling the warmth of friendship and the joy of belonging, just as Ivan does when he reunites with Julia and Bob. This chapter teaches you that no matter how isolated you may feel, reaching out and nurturing relationships can transform your world. Embracing your role within a community not only enriches your life but also empowers you to make a difference in the lives of others. Just like Ivan, when you recognize the importance of your connections, you can find pride in the impact you have on those around you, reminding you that you are never truly alone.

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